

Message Text

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P R 261829Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2131
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AORG, OCON, CSCE, UNESCO
SUBJECT: UNESCO CONFERENCE OF NATIONAL COMMISSIONS OF
THE EUROPEAN REGION, HELSINKI, APRIL 18-23;
A POST-MORTEM

REFS: (A) HELSINKI 0795, (B) HELSINKI 0796

SUMMARY: THIS CABLE IS INTENDED AS A WRAP-UP OF
POLITICAL ISSUES (CSCE FOLLOW-UP; NEW INTERNATIONAL
ECONOMIC ORDER, AND COOPERATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN
REGION, REPORTED IN REFTELS) THAT AROSE IN COURSE OF
THIS OTHERWISE VERY PRODUCTIVE AND HARMONIOUS CONFERENCE
IN WHICH THE NATIONAL COMMISSIONS OF THE USA, CANADA
AND ISRAEL PARTICIPATED FOR THE FIRST TIME AS FULL AND
EQUAL MEMBERS. SEPARATE REPORT COVERING ALL SUBSTANTIVE
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PROGRAM ITEMS WILL BE SUBMITTED BY THE TWO REPRESENTA-
TIVES OF US NATIONAL COMMISSION THROUGH NORMAL CHANNELS.
END OF SUMMARY.

A. CSCE FOLLOW-UP

1. THE MOST POLITICAL PART OF THE CONFERENCE WAS THE

DEBATE ON UNESCO'S ROLE IN IMPLEMENTING THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT OF 1975. BACKGROUND PAPER ON THIS AGENDA ITEM WAS PREPARED BY USSR NATIONAL COMMISSION AND SERVED AS THE BASIS FOR DISCUSSION IN WHICH REPRESENTATIVES OF 19 NATIONAL COMMISSIONS TOOK PART.

2. THE SOVIET PAPER: (I) IN DESCRIBING THE HELSINKI ACCORDS, EMPHASIZED VERY SELECTIVELY ONLY THOSE PRINCIPLES (SET DOWN IN BASKET ONE) HAVING TO DO WITH SOVEREIGN EQUALITY OF STATES AND NON-INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER COUNTRIES. IT ALL BUT IGNORED OTHER PRINCIPLES RELATED TO HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS AND TO THE OBLIGATION TO CONFORM TO INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS; (II) DISCUSSED UNESCO'S ROLE UNDER THE ACCORDS IN BROAD AND UNRESTRICTED FASHION, INCLUDING INVOLVEMENT IN INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION MATTERS WHICH THE FINAL ACT DID NOT SPECIFY FOR IMPLEMENTATION BY UNESCO; AND (III) SUGGESTED THAT UNESCO PROGRAMS IN EUROPE NOW ALL DERIVE FROM THE HELSINKI ACCORDS AND NEED TO BE EVALUATED AGAINST THEIR AIMS.

3. DURING THE DISCUSSION, THE THRUST OF THE SOVIET PAPER WAS REPEATEDLY SUPPORTED BY OTHER EE'S AND CRITICIZED BY THE WE'S, PARTICULARLY FRANCE, U.S., SWEDEN, NETHERLANDS, FRG AND BELGIUM. SAME DIFFERENCE OF OPINION WAS ALSO EVIDENT IN DISCUSSION OF DRAFT RECOMMENDATION SUBMITTED ON THE AGENDA ITEM BY THE USSR, UKRAINE, BYELORUSSIA AND POLAND.
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4. THE SOVIET DRAFT RECOMMENDATION, REFLECTING ITS PAPER, WAS LONG ON PREAMBULATORY PRAISE FOR THE FINAL ACT, AND CALLED FOR NEW AND EXPANDED UNESCO PROGRAMS TO HELP IN ITS IMPLEMENTATION, INCLUDING SUCH USUAL FAVORITES AS INTERNATIONAL "PEACE FORUMS", FESTIVALS OF THE "ARTS OF THE PEOPLES", AND "GOLDEN COLLECTION OF THE MASTERPIECES" OF EUROPEAN LITERATURE AND ART. TO COUNTER SOVIET DR, REPRESENTATIVES OF EC NINE, IN CLOSE CONSULTATION WITH USDEL, SUBMITTED OWN TEXT WHICH WAS DELIBERATELY BRIEF AND RESTRICTIVE.

5. IN VIEW OF WIDE DIVERGENCE, ESPECIALLY BETWEEN USSR AND EC NINE DRAFTS, A WORKING GROUP, COMPOSED OF USSR, RUMANIA, YUGOSLAVIA, SWITZERLAND, FRANCE AND UK, AND CHAIRED BY SWISS REPRESENTATIVE WAS ORGANIZED TO TRY TO

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COME UP WITH SINGLE TEXT ON WHICH CONSENSUS MIGHT BE
GAINED. AFTER LONG BEHIND-THE-SCENE NEGOTIATIONS, IN
WHICH WE PLAYED A LEADING ROLE, FOLLOWING CONSENSUS
TEXT EMERGED, WHICH THE CONFERENCE ADOPTED ON THE
FINAL DAY WITHOUT OBJECTION.

6. QUOTE: THE CONFERENCE,

BEARING IN MIND THE LONG TRADITION OF COOPERATION IN
EUROPE IN THE FIELDS OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND CULTURE,

AWARE OF THE FACT THAT IT IS BEING HELD IN THE VERY
PLACE WHERE THE FINAL ACT OF THE CONFERENCE ON
SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE WAS SIGNED,
CONSTITUTES AN IMPORTANT STAGE IN THE HISTORY OF THE
RELATIONS AMONG THE SIGNATORY STATES,
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NOTING WITH SATISFACTION THE WILL EXPRESSED IN THIS DOCUMENT TO PROMOTE BETWEEN THE SIGNATORY STATES AN EVER CLOSER COLLABORATION IN THE FIELDS OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND CULTURE IN THE RELATIONS WITH ONE ANOTHER AND TO EVALUATE THE RESULTS AND PROGRESS OBTAINED,

BEARING IN MIND THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE EUROPEAN COUNTRIES AND THE VARIOUS ORGANIZATIONS AND REGIONAL BODIES TOWARDS THIS COOPERATION,

DRAWING ATTENTION TO THE PARTICULAR ROLE WHICH UNESCO PLAYS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF EUROPEAN COOPERATION WITHIN THE FIELD OF ITS COMPETENCE,

AWARE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE RESULTS OF THE CONFERENCES OF THE COUNTRIES OF THE EUROPEAN REGION AT GOVERNMENTAL LEVEL CONVENED BY UNESCO IN THE FIELDS OF EDUCATION (VIENNA 1967 AND BUCHAREST 1973), OF SCIENCE (PARIS 1970) AND OF CULTURE (HELSINKI 1972) WITH A VIEW TO PROMOTING EUROPEAN COOPERATION.

APPRECIATING IN THIS CONTEXT THE RESULTS OF THE CONFERENCES OF NATIONAL COMMISSIONS OF THE EUROPEAN REGION (AIX-EN-PROVENCE, 1956; DUBROVNIK, 1957; TAORMINA, 1960; SOFIA, 1962; MONACO, 1969; BUCHAREST, 1972),

REAFFIRMING RECOMMENDATION NUMBER 10 OF THE SIXTH REGIONAL CONFERENCE OF NATIONAL COMMISSIONS FOR UNESCO (BUCHAREST 1972) CONCERNING THE ROLE THAT THE COMMISSIONS PLAY IN STRENGTHENING PEACE AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT RESOLUTION 7.12, ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF UNESCO AT ITS 19TH SESSION CONCERNING EUROPEAN COOPERATION AND, IN PARTICULAR, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE POSSIBILITY TO ASSOCIATE UNESCO IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DISPOSITIONS OF THE FINAL ACT OF THE CSCE IN THE FIELDS OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND CULTURE,

RECOMMENDS THE NATIONAL COMMISSIONS OF THE EUROPEAN REGION:

1. TO INTENSIFY IN CONFORMITY WITH THEIR LONG-ESTABLISHED PRACTICE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECTS OF COOPERATION ON A BILATERAL, SUBREGIONAL AND REGIONAL BASIS,

2. TO PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY IN THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF UNESCO'S EUROPEAN PROGRAMME FOR 1977-78,
INCLUDING THOSE PROJECTS FORMULATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH
THE DISPOSITIONS OF THE FINAL ACT OF THE CSCE IN THE
FIELDS OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND CULTURE,

3. TO PARTICIPATE MORE ACTIVELY IN THE DEVELOPMENT
OF UNESCO'S PROGRAMMES IN THE SPHERE OF EUROPEAN
COOPERATION, IN PARTICULAR, BY SUBMITTING TO THEIR
GOVERNMENTS RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF
UNESCO'S EUROPEAN PROGRAMME TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE
SPIRIT AND THE LETTER OF THE FINAL ACT OF THE CSCE,

4. TO CONTRIBUTE, WITHIN THE LIMITS OF THEIR
COMPETENCE, TO AN EVALUATION OF THE EXECUTION OF THE

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RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EUROPEAN INTER-GOVERNMENTAL
CONFERENCES CONVENED BY UNESCO.

RECOMMENDS THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

1) TO PROPOSE, AFTER DUE CONSULTATION WITH THE MEMBER STATES CONCERNED, APPROPRIATE MEASURES LIKELY TO STRENGTHEN AND DEVELOP THE EUROPEAN PROGRAMME INCLUDING THOSE PROJECTS WHICH AIM TO ASSOCIATE UNESCO IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DISPOSITIONS OF THE FINAL ACT IN THE FIELDS OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND CULTURE,

2) TO ENCOURAGE THE PARTICIPATION OF THE NATIONAL COMMISSIONS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF UNESCO,
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3) TO MAKE AN EVALUATION OF THE EXECUTION OF THE EUROPEAN PROGRAMMES APPROVED BY THE GENERAL CONFERENCE AND OF THE FOLLOW-UP TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE REGIONAL EUROPEAN CONFERENCES ORGANIZED BY UNESCO, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT RESOLUTION 7.12 ON EUROPEAN COOPERATION ADOPTED AT THE 19TH SESSION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE. END OF QUOTATION.

B. NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER (NIEO)

7. IN CONNECTION WITH AGENDA ITEM ON INTER-REGIONAL COOPERATION, THE YUGOSLAV DELEGATION SUBMITTED A DRAFT RECOMMENDATION WHICH, INTER ALIA, RECOMMENDED TO NATIONAL COMMISSIONS OF THE EUROPEAN REGION TO (I) "NOTE WITH SATISFACTION THE PRINCIPLES, GOALS AND OBJECTIVES" OF NIEO, AND (II) INVITED THEM TO GIVE SUPPORT TO THEIR GOVERNMENTS IN IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS "NEW ORDER". BEFORE THIS DR WAS FORMALLY PRESENTED TO COMMISSION II FOR ITS REVIEW, DEPUTY US PERMREP, WHO WAS ASSIGNED AS ADVISOR TO USDELEGATION, MET WITH THE YUGOSLAVS AND EXPLAINED TO THEM OUR INABILITY TO SUPPORT THEIR TEXT.

8. WE FOUND THE YUGOSLAVS QUITE RECEPTIVE TO OUR ARGUMENTS AND, AS A RESULT, WE SUCCEEDED IN ELIMINATING OBJECTIONABLE LANGUAGE FROM THEIR ORIGINAL TEXT. THE NEW, MUCH SHORTENED VERSION OF THEIR DRAFT RECOMMENDATION WAS SUBSEQUENTLY ADOPTED IN THE PLENARY BY CONSENSUS AS FOLLOWS:

9. BEGIN QUOTE: THE CONFERENCE,

REAFFIRMING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE RESOLUTION 9.1 ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF UNESCO AT ITS 19TH SESSION CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW

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INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER, AND THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF A SECOND DEVELOPMENT DECADE WHICH, INTER ALIA,
RECOMMENDS TO THE MEMBER STATES TO STRENGTHEN THEIR
COOPERATION AT THE INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL LEVELS
IN ALL FIELDS OF UNESCO'S COMPETENCE, IN ORDER TO
ASSIST THE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES;

RECALLING RECOMMENDATION 14. OF THE SIXTH CONFERENCE
OF THE NATIONAL COMMISSIONS FOR UNESCO OF THE
EUROPEAN REGION;

RECOMMENDS TO THE NATIONAL COMMISSIONS FOR UNESCO OF
THE EUROPEAN REGION:

1. TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE PROMOTION OF REFLECTION
AND KNOWLEDGE OF A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER,

2. TO UNDERTAKE ACTIVITIES WHICH WILL ASSIST IN
SPREADING AWARENESS OF EXISTING INEQUALITIES ON THE
GLOBAL SCALE IN EDUCATION, SCIENCE, CULTURE AND
COMMUNICATION,

3. TO ENCOURAGE RELEVANT ACTIVITIES OF NON-
GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND THEIR COOPERATION IN
THIS RESPECT,

INVITES THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL TO ENCOURAGE AND ASSIST
ACTIVITIES OF NATIONAL COMMISSIONS FOR UNESCO OF THE
EUROPEAN REGION WITH REGARD TO THE RESOLUTION 9.1 OF
THE 19TH SESSION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF UNESCO,
PARTICULARLY BY ENCOURAGING INTER-REGIONAL COOPERATION.

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END OF QUOTATION.

C. COOPERATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION

10. AS WAS POINTED OUT IN REF B, WE FOUND THE DRAFT RECOMMENDATION SUBMITTED BY MALTA NOT ACCEPTABLE FOR TWO REASONS: (A) IT CONTAINED ERRONEOUS STATEMENT THAT "NO CULTURAL, SCIENTIFIC OR TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION IS POSSIBLE WITHOUT SECURITY"; (B) IT REQUESTED THE CONFERENCE TO RECOMMEND TO DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF UNESCO "TO CREATE" SPECIAL PROGRAMS WITHIN UNESCO FOCUSING ON COOPERATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION; AND (C) IT INCORRECTLY REFERRED TO THE MEDITERRANEAN "DOCUMENT" IN THE FINAL ACT OF HELSINKI.

11. OUR, AND OUR WESTERN FRIENDS' PRIVATE ATTEMPTS TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MOVE THIS DR FROM DISCUSSION OF ITEM 7 (CSCE FOLLOW-UP) TO ITEM 9 (INTER-REGIONAL COOPERATION) WERE SUCCESSFUL, PARTLY AT LEAST THANKS TO YUGOSLAV EFFORTS IN THIS REGARD. HOWEVER, THE CHAIRMAN OF MALTESE DELEGATION, RENO CALLEJA, WHO IS ALSO MEMBER OF MALTA PARLIAMENT, REFUSED TO MAKE "ANY OTHER CONCESSIONS", AND, AS A RESULT, THERE WAS A LIVELY DISCUSSION OF HIS DR IN THE COMMISSION II. IN ORDER TO AVOID SEPARATE VOTE AND TO PROCEED WITH THE AGREED WORKING METHODS (APPROVAL BY CONSENSUS), THE MEETING WAS INTERRUPTED TO MAKE ANOTHER ATTEMPT AT RESOLVING DIFFERING VIEWS. WHAT EMERGED FROM A PRIVATE CAUCUS (IN WHICH WE ACTIVELY PARTICIPATED) IS THE FOLLOWING COMPROMISE TEXT WHICH WAS ADOPTED IN THE PLENARY BY

CONSENSUS.

12. QUOTE: THE CONFERENCE,

TAKING NOTE OF THE FACT, THAT THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION
IS AN AGED-OLD CENTER OF CULTURE, FROM WHICH EUROPEAN
CULTURE ORIGINATED;

RECOGNIZING THAT CULTURAL, SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL
COOPERATION PROMOTES UNDERSTANDING, IS CONDUCTIVE TO
THE REDUCTION OF TENSION AND PREPARES THE PATH FOR
PEACE;

HAVING REGARD TO THE IMPORTANCE THE HELSINKI CONFERENCE
ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE GAVE TO THE
MEDITERRANEAN REGION THROUGH THE INCLUSION OF PROVISIONS
CONCERNING THE MEDITERRANEAN IN THE FINAL ACT OF
THE CONFERENCE;

RECOMMENDS TO THE NATIONAL COMMISSIONS OF THE EUROPEAN
REGION TO TAKE EVERY NECESSARY STEP TO FOSTER AND
INCREASE PRACTICAL FORMS OF COOPERATION WITH THE
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NATIONAL COMMISSIONS OF NON-EUROPEAN MEDITERRANEAN
STATES WITHIN THE PROGRAMME OF UNESCO;

RECOMMENDS TO UNESCO AND NATIONAL COMMISSIONS TO
ENCOURAGE PROGRAMMES WITHIN UNESCO TO ENSURE THAT
SUCH COOPERATION BETWEEN THE MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN
REGION AND NON-EUROPEAN MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES IS
CARRIED OUT THROUGH PRACTICAL ACTIVITIES AND CONCRETE
MEASURES THAT FOSTER CULTURAL COOPERATION. END OF
QUOTATION.

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13. COMMENT: (1) WE BELIEVE IT IS WORTH NOTING, BOTH FOR THE DEPARTMENT AND EMBASSY BELGRADE, FRIENDLY AND COOPERATIVE BEHAVIOR OF YUGOSLAV DELEGATION AT THIS CONFERENCE, WHICH WAS IN QUITE CONTRAST TO THE 19TH GENERAL CONFERENCE IN NAIROBI. ONE OF MOST FORTHCOMING AND HELPFUL MEMBER OF THEIR DELEGATION IN HELSINKI WAS MR. BRANKO LUKOVAC, SECRETARY-GENERAL OF YUGOSLAV NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR UNESCO.

(2) FOR DEPARTMENT AND EMBASSY MOSCOW: WHILE THE FINNISH HOSTS WERE EXTREMELY INTERESTED AND, INDEED, VERY HELPFUL IN FINDING WAYS TO AVOID HEATED EAST-WEST EXCHANGES, WE BELIEVE THAT, IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS, , WHAT CONVINCED THE SOVIET DELEGATION (LED BY NIKOLAI SMIRNOV, EXECUTIVE-SECRETARY OF USSR NATIONAL COM-
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MISSION FOR UNESCO) TO GIVE IN AND TO ABANDON THEIR ORIGINALLY RATHER AMBITIOUS GOALS WAS THE AWARENESS THAT, CONSENSUS IDEA ASIDE, THEY WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO OBTAIN REQUIRED TWO-THIRD MAJORITY IN THE PLENARY, IN ANY CASE. COHESION BETWEEN THE WESTERN DELEGATIONS, ASSISTED BY EXPERIENCED POLITICAL ADVISORS, PROVED TO BE A DECISIVE FACTOR IN THIS REGARD.
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